

Message Text

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11

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-04 AID-05 A-01 SSO-00 IGA-02

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O R 021200Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4818

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 KUWAIT 1043

SECSTATE FOR A/OS: USCINCEUR FOR USDESEA

E.O. 11652: N/

TAGS: ASCH, KU

SUBJ: AMERICAN SCHOOL - KUWAIT

SUMMARY: DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS URGED TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TO PROVIDE FUNDS AND MAKE WRITTEN COMMITMENTS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF KUWAIT WITH A VIEW TO ENSURING THAT SEATS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DEPENDENTS OF ADDITIONAL US OFFICIAL PERSONNEL TO BE ASSIGNED TO KUWAIT DURING FY 77. DEPARTMENT ALSO ASKED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING CERTAIN AMERICAN COMPANIES ON THE SUBJECT OF SCHOOL ADMISSION IN KUWAIT OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF KUWAIT (CURRENT ENROLL-

MENT 670) HAS DELIVERED ULTIMATIUM TO EMBASSY AND VARIOUS AMERICAN COMPANIES ANTICIPATING EXPANDED OR NEW OPERATIONS IN KUWAIT THAT UNLESS SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/PARTICIPATION IS PLEDGED BY MARCH 15 BOARD WILL ABANDON PLANS TO EXPAND SCHOOL TO ACCOMMODATE NEW STUDENTS. PRESENT PLANT CAN ACCOMMODATE APPROXIMATELY 700. BOARD ESTIMATES ADDITIONAL 100-150 AMERICAN SCHOOL-AGE DEPENDENTS WILL ATTEMPT ENROLL SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 76. PROJECTED ENROLLMENT EARLY IN NEXT DECADE IS 1,500.

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2. CURRENT ENROLLMENT OF DEPENDENTS OF OFFICIAL AMERICANS IS 21. EMBASSY ANTICIPATES ADDITIONAL 25 SPACES WILL BE REQUIRED IN SEPTEMBER, PRIMARILY TO MEET NEEDS OF DEPENDENTS OF USG MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO USLOK AND ASSOCIATED FMS PROGRAMS. ADDITIONAL 25 SPACES FOR THIS CATEGORY PERSONNEL PROBABLY WILL BE REQUIRED

IN SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 1977. REMAINDER PROJECTED GROWTH OVER NEXT SEVERAL YEARS ATTRIBUTED MAINLY TO DEPENDENTS DOD CONTRACTOR COMPANY PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYEES OF MAJOR US COMPANIES WHICH WILL BE ENGAGED IN GAS UTILIZATION AND OTHER MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN KUWAIT.

3. IN ORDER TO MEET EXPANDED NEEDS, BOARD HAS IDENTIFIED TWO POSSIBILITIES. SHORT TERM REQUIREMENTS CAN BE MET BY CONSTRUCTION OF TEN ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS ON PRESENT LEASED SITE (ANNUAL RENTAL FEE

FOR BUILDING AND LAND CURRENTLY APPROXIMATELY US\$100,000) OR ADDITIONAL BUILDING SPACE CAN BE LEASED ELSEWHERE. SHORT-TERM PLAN IS TO PROVIDE CAPACITY FOR ADDITIONAL 200 STUDENTS. LONGER-TERM PLAN ENVISAGES CONSTRUCTION OF MODULAR FACILITY FOR COMPLETION IN 1977 OR 1978 WITH AN INITIAL CAPACITY OF 1,000 AND A PROJECTED CAPACITY OF 1,500. LATTER FACILITY WOULD BE ON LAND EITHER PURCHASED BY BOARD OR "CONTRIBUTED" BY ONE OF SEVERAL POTENTIAL DONORS. BOARD ALSO INVESTIGATING POSSIBILITY OF ENTERING INTO LONG-TERM COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH LOCAL BUILDER FOR CONSTRUCTION AND LEASE OF SUITABLE FACILITY. BOARD HAS ABANDONED HOPE OF RECEIVING DIRECT ASSISTANCE FROM GOK.

4. FOR SHORT TERM EXPANSION BOARD IS DEMANDING PLEDGES OF AT LEAST \$350,000 BY MARCH 15. IT ENVISAGES ABOVE FUNDS WILL BE USED TO EQUIP EXPANDED FACILITY, INCLUDING NECESSARY ADDITIONAL STAFF APARTMENTS, AND TO HIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF. IF ABOVE PLEDGES RECEIVED, BOARD HAS PROMISED IT WILL MAKE "BEST EFFORT" TO FIND SEATS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDENTS STARTING IN 1976/77 SCHOOL YEAR. THOSE COMPANIES (INCLUDING EMBASSY) DESIRING RESERVE SPACES ARE BEING ASKED TO PLEDGE \$5,500 PER SEAT, WITH TEN PERCENT (\$350) DUE AS EARNEST FEE BY MARCH 15 AND REMAINDER TO BE PAID WITHIN TEN DAYS OF REQUEST BY THE BOARD. PLEDGED FUNDS WILL BE SPENT ONLY ON EXPANSION ACTIVITIES. IF \$350,000 NOT PLEDGED BY MARCH 15, EXPANSION WILL NOT TAKE PLACE AND MONEY DEPOSITED WILL BE RETURNED. IF BALANCE OF PLEDGE PAYMENT IS NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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MADE WITHIN TEN DAYS SPECIFIED ABOVE, TEN PERCENT EARNEST FEE AND RESERVED SEAT ARE FORFEITED. IF NEW SCHOOL COMPLEX IS BUILT, AN ADDITIONAL EXPANSION/CONSTRUCTION FEE WOULD BE COLLECTED FROM ALL STUDENTS. FEW PROBABLY WOULD BE LESS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED AT TIME CONSTRUCTION/EXPANSION PROGRAM AGREED. ALL OF ABOVE FEES WILL BE IN ADDITION TO USUAL TUITION FEES (CURRENTLY \$1,700 PER YEAR) WHICH BOARD HOPES ALSO TO INCREASE BY 10 PERCENT.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL THAT USG LEND MAXIMUM POSSIBLE SUPPORT TO BOARD, NOT ONLY TO ENSURE SPACES FOR EXPECTED ADDITIONAL DEPENDENTS OF OFFICIAL PERSONNEL, BUT ALSO TO ENSURE CONTINUANCE OF A VIABLE AMERICAN-TYPE SCHOOL ADEQUATE TO MEET THE GROWING NEEDS OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN KUWAIT. AS DISCUSSED IN MARCH 1 PARSONS/MANDERSCHIED TELECON, EMBASSY BELIEVES AT MINIMUM IT MUST BE AUTHORIZED TO PLEDGE IN WRITING BY MARCH 15:

A) A DIRECT CONTRIBUTION OF \$25,000 PER YEAR IN GRANT AID;
AND,

B) SUPPORT FOR SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED TUITION AND AN EXPANSION FEE OF UP TO \$3,500 FOR EACH NEW STUDENT ENROLLED OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS ABOVE PRESENT EMBASSY/DOD ENROLLMENT OF 21 STUDENTS. (IF PREFERRED, A PORTION OF ASSESSMENT CAN BE ITEMIZED AS TUITION INCREASE AND GRANT AID CAN REPRESENT BALANCE OF EXPANSION FEES PAID BY EMBASSY.)

IN ADDITION, EMBASSY MUST PROVIDE CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,750 IN PAYMENT OF THE "EARNEST" FEE DESCRIBED ABOVE, BASED ON 25 NEW CHILDREN EXPECTED TO BE ENROLLED IN SEPTEMBER OF THE CURRENT YEAR. THE EMBASSY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE AUTHORIZED TO STATE IN WRITING THAT IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE USG TO PAY ITS FAIR SHARE OF ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL EXPANSION.

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ACTION OPR-02

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----- 087537

O R 021200Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4819

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 KUWAIT 1043

SECSTATE FOR A/OS: USCINCEUR FOR USDESEA

6. ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION, IT ALSO IS REQUESTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONTACT THE FOLLOWING AMERICAN FIRMS IMMEDIATELY (PRINCIPALLY DOD CONTRACTOR COMPANIES EXPECTED TO INTRODUCE A SIZEABLE NUMBER OF AMERICAN EMPLOYEES INTO KUWAIT OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS) ADVISING THEM OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE SCHOOL BOARD AND CONTEMPLATED BY THE USG.

DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT CO.
3855 LAKEWOOD BLVD.
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

RAYTHEON CO.
MISSILE SYSTEMS DIVISION
350 LOWELL STREET CONTACT MR. JACK MCCARTHY
ANDOVER, MASS. 01810

GILCRON CORPORATION
16661 VENTURA BLVD. CONTACT MR. ED RITTER
ENCINO, CALIF. 91436

IT IS REQUESTED THEY BE ASKED TO COMMUNICATE BY CABLE THEIR PLEDGES FOR THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF NEW CHILDREN TO BE ENROLLED IN SEPTEMBER 1976 AND TO FORWARD THE SUM REQUESTED AS "EARNEST" FEE BY THE SCHOOL (350 PER PLACE) BY THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS MEANS
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POSSIBLE. COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. GEORGE LARSEN, SUPERINTENDENT, AMERICAN SCHOOL KUWAIT, HAWALLI, KUWAIT, STATE OF KUWAIT.

7. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS REQUESTED:

A) THE EMBASSY BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE THE COMMITMENTS AND EXPEND THE FUNDS DESCRIBED IN PARA (5) ABOVE;

B) THE DEPARTMENT TAKE THE ACTIONS REQUESTED IN PARA (6) ABOVE; AND,

C) DEPARTMENT PROVIDE \$8,750 IMMEDIATELY TO MEET THE URGENT EXPENDITURE DESCRIBED ABOVE AND AGREE TO MAKE AVAILABLE WHEN CALLED FOR BY SCHOOL BOARD ADDITIONAL \$78,750 FOR PAYMENT EXPANSION FEE FOR 25 NEW STUDENTS EXPECTED IN SEPTEMBER 1976.

MAU

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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